

REMARKS

Claims 15 and 24 have been amended to correct typographical errors. Claim 27 has been cancelled without prejudice. With entry of this Amendment, claims 1-26 will be pending.

The Examiner restricted the claims into two groups:

Group I – claims 1-26, drawn to an apparatus; and

Group II – claim 27, drawn to a method.

Applicant hereby elects to prosecute Group I (claims 1-26) without traverse. Accordingly, claim 27 has been cancelled without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the non-elected claims in one or more divisional applications.

Examination on the merits is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience should any issues remain.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Hartwig', with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

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Docket No. 041165-9064-00
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